

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 68 and 69 as follows:

Analysis of the protein sequence deduced from *orf29*, using the SignalP program (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/SignalP/>) (Nielsen, H., *et al.*, 1997), shows that this protein has a C-terminal signal sequence with a predicted cleavage site between positions 30 and 31 (QSA/QA). It may be predicted that this protein is extracellular. It might, as a glycosylhydrolase, have a role in the reactivation of spiramycin inactivated by glycosylation by the glycosyltransferases GimA and/or GimB (Gournelen *et al.*, 1998).